PROJECT TITLE	:	INSTRUMENTATION AND PROCESS AUTOMATION
PERIOD COVERED	:	JUNE 23 - JULY 22
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Automation of the Smoking Laboratory (Project COLDAC)

The authorization concerning the request for investment was granted on July 6 1981. The computer and terminals to be used in this project will be delivered between 15 and 30 October 1981. The training course on the material and software will be given by Hewlett-Packard between September 20 and December 20 1981.

The specifications of this application are currently being studied by the various users. A technical notebook containing all the information concerning the smoking laboratory's instrument link-up is now being written by the Instrumentation group. The setting-up of the "data link" in the laboratories is planned to be carried out in September 1981. The final positioning of the terminals and the allocation of work places is still being prepared. A series of 65 junction boxes will be installed during the setting-up of the link-up to give maximum flexibility in the geographical distribution of work places.

RTD/DIL Data Treatment

A mini HP 85-type computer will be set up in the Quality Control laboratories of the Serrières production center. This special computer will perform the daily and monthly treatment of RTD/DIL data.

This treatment work consists of watching over, actively and interactively, the differences between the values measured and the specifications of each brand. The mini-computer produces on a print-out the values recorded during the day for each brand by each machine. The results are stored on magnetic tape and will be used to establish monthly and quaterly reports.

The specifications of this application were discussed in detail with the various users and heads of Quality Assurance. An evaluation programme has been written in BASIC for the daily treatment of data and will be tested in the coming months. The characteristics of this programme will be given in the next monthly report.

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The direct link-up of the RTD/DIL measuring instrument (SODIM-type) to the HP 85 micro-computer is currently being studied. This connection will enable us to do away with the manual introduction of numerical data on a keyboard which is a particularly long and fastidious operation. This on-line connection is planned for autumn 1981.

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